[9th October 1928

(c) A memorandum[a] comparing the general powers and functions of a Landing and Shipping Fees Committee with those of a Port Conservancy Board is laid on the table.

(d) A Bill to amend the Madras Outports Landing and Shipping Fees Act, 1885 (III of 1885), so as to put the Port Conservancy Boards and Landing and Shipping Feee Committees on a statutory basis is under the consideration of Government. It is not possible to say when the proposed legislation will be brought before the Council.

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—"May I inquire why there is so much delay in bringing forward this legislation? Session after session, the answer has been given that the matter is under consideration. Will the hon. the Law Member inform us as to when approximately at least this legislation will be brought before this Council?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—"I am sorry it is not possible to say."

Mr. K. R. Karant :—"May I ask whether the municipality of Mangalore was ever consulted before this Port Conservancy Board was constituted, and whether the municipality has any representation on the Board?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—"As far as I am aware, it was not consulted. As to whether the municipal council has any representation, I want notice."

Central Record Office

Alleged overlooking of the claims of qualified clerks for promotion by the Curator, Madras Record Office.

*434 Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether complaints have been made to Government that the claims of qualified and deserving clerks are overlooked by the Curator of the Madras Record Office or Personal Assistant to the Editor of the Gazetteers in the matter of promotions and appointments in the office; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by the Government to redress the grievance?

A.—(a) The Government have received representations in the matter of promotions and appointments of clerks in the Madras Record Office

(b) Enquiry disclosed no grievance calling for the intervention of Government.

Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed :—"May I know whether it is or it is not a fact that applications of candidates and employees of the Record Office have not been sent up to the department for proper consideration but have been suppressed by the head of the office? I am told that one or two applications for promotion have not been sent up for due consideration."

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a Printed as Appendix III on pages 230—232 infra.

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"The Curator has certain powers of appointment himself, and in such cases applications do not go beyond the Curator."

Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED :—" May I know whether even appeals to the higher authorities against failure of justice have not been sent up by the Curator ?"

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" There is no appeal available to any one who is not appointed to a particular post. No one has any right to an appointment to a particular post."

Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED :—" May I know, Sir, whether any appeals from existing officers representing grievances and injustice done have not been forwarded to the higher authorities ?"

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" I have no reason to suppose that it is the case. If any appeal is to go to a higher authority, it will be duly submitted."

Government Press

Eligibility of service in the Lawrence Asylum Press for pension.

*435 *Q.*—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether service in the Lawrence Asylum Press prior to its transfer to Government is counted as service for pension under the Government of Madras ;

(*b*) whether the Lawrence Asylum Press were granting pensions to their employees ; and

(*c*) what is the number of persons claiming service in the Lawrence Asylum Press as counting for pension ?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) The Government have no information.

(*c*) No information is available. Claims for pension are made at the time of retirement and are decided then.

* Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—" Arising out of the answer to clause (*b*), is the hon the Home Member aware that there was an application from the employees of the Lawrence Asylum Press to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras that they had been getting pension in the Lawrence Asylum Press ? May I know whether the Government has taken any action on the same and would not consider the granting of pension to these men who are now employed in the Government Press ?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Claims for pension are made at the time of retirement."

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—" Is that the usual practice under Government that claims for pension are made at the time of retirement and no previous arrangement is made for men employed in Government ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " That is what I said. Claims for pension will be considered only at the time of retirement."